SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
12¢
BATMAN
FEB.
NO. 145
BATMAN II and ROBIN II MEET "THE SON of THE JOKER!"
IRONICALLY, MY SON, WHO IS NOW THE NEW ROBIN, IS OVERCOMING THE SON OF MY OLD ENEMY, THE JOKER!

National Periodical
PUBLICATIONS, INC.

575 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK

Dear Boys and Girls:

First, we would like to thank you for having bought this DC magazine, even though it cost you two cents more than usual. Obviously, you like our magazine and consider our stories worth the extra two pennies. That makes us feel mighty proud!

However, we think we owe you an explanation as to why it was necessary to raise our price, after successfully publishing comics for over 25 years at 10¢. Over these past years the cost of producing our magazines has steadily risen. We have to pay more for art, engraving, paper and printing. You, too, have to pay more for most of the things you buy. U.S. Post Cards, which used to cost only 1¢, are now 3¢. Sodas and telephone calls were a nickel, now they are double that, ten cents. Hot dogs also were a nickel, now they are at least a dime, 15¢ in most places. Everything costs more today than just a few years ago. Your parents have to pay more for food, clothing and rent.

The retailer who sold you this magazine has also been affected by rising costs, and so has the company that delivered the magazine to him. All of us will share the additional two cents. Although some of our competitors are now charging 15¢ for the same size comic magazine that we produce, we feel that 12¢ adequately covers our rising production costs, and is therefore a much better value for you.

We feel confident that you understand the necessity for this slight adjustment, and will remain loyal fans. For our part, we promise to redouble our efforts to maintain the same high standards of publishing that have produced the world-famous line of SUPERMAN-DC Comics.

Sincerely yours,

The Editors

P.S.: Our GIANT ANNUALS will still cost only 25¢!

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ACROSS THE PACIFIC LIES A GROUP OF FABULOUS ISLANDS THAT ARE CALLED THE HAWAIIAN ARCHIPELAGO--ISLANDS THAT COMPRISE OUR NEWEST STATE--HAWAII! HERE, IN THIS LAND OF SUN AND SURF, TWO CRIME-FIGHTERS ARRIVE TO TRACK DOWN A CUNNING CRIMINAL! FROM THE LAVA CRATER OF MAUNA LOA VOLCANO, TO THE MOUNTAIN-STRADDLING CANE FIELDS, BATMAN AND ROBIN FOLLOW A STRANGE QUEST IN THEIR...
BATMAN
With ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
HUNT for MR. 50
GREAT SCOTT! MAUNA LOA HAS ERUPTED--AND THE RISING SMOKE AND GAS HAVE KNOCKED OUT ROBIN! HIS WHIRLY-BAT IS FALLING RIGHT INTO THE FIERY VOLCANO!
BOB KANE

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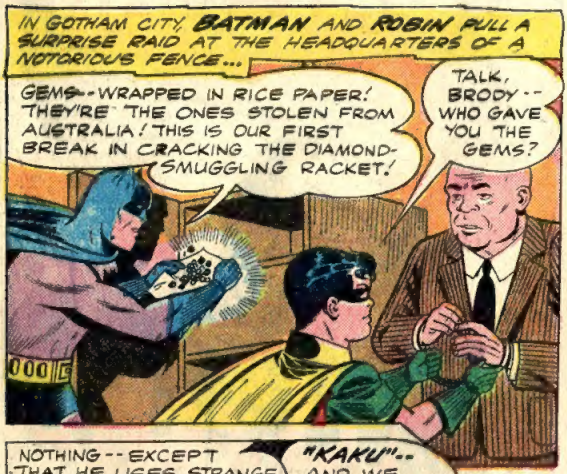
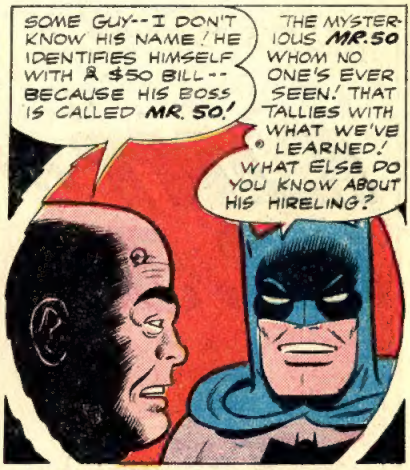
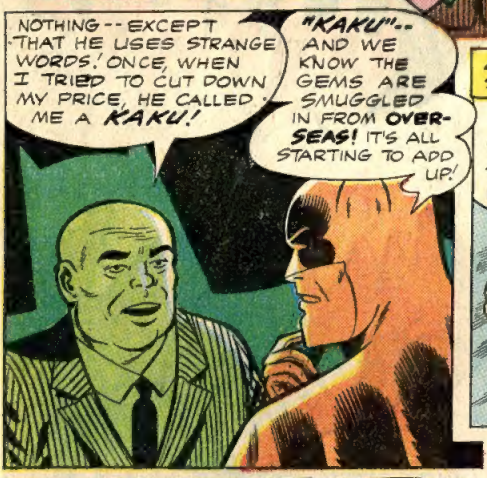
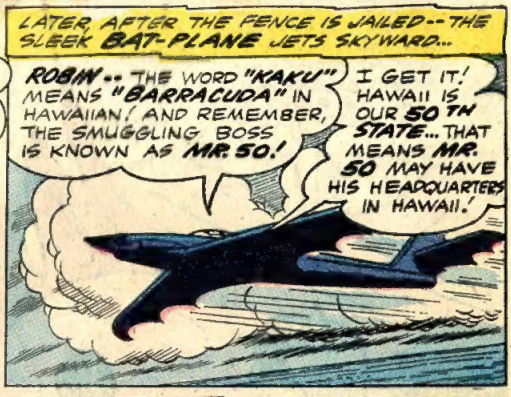
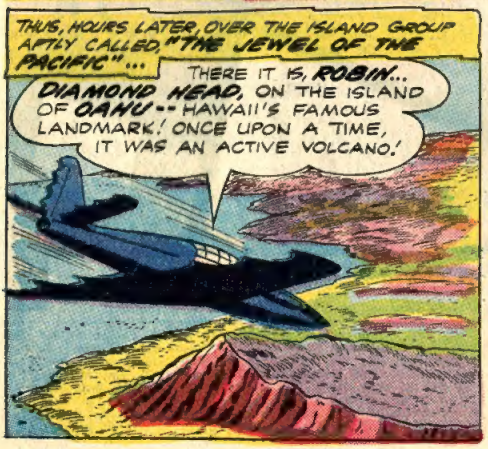
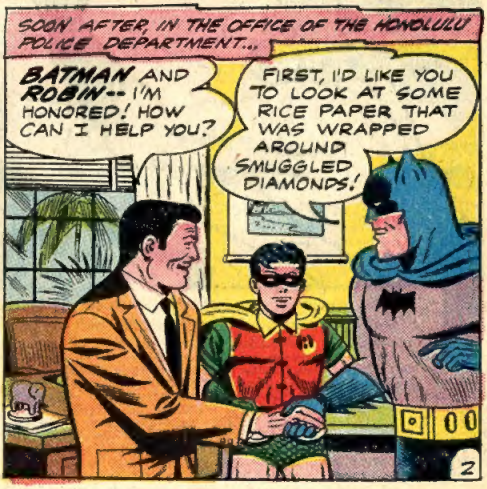

IN GOTHAM CITY, BATMAN AND ROBIN PULL A SURPRISE RAID AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF A NOTORIOUS FENCE...
GEMS--WRAPPED IN RICE PAPER! THEY'RE THE ONES STOLEN FROM AUSTRALIA! THIS IS OUR FIRST BREAK IN CRACKING THE DIAMOND-SMUGGLING RACKET!
TALK, BRODY--WHO GAVE YOU THE GEMS?

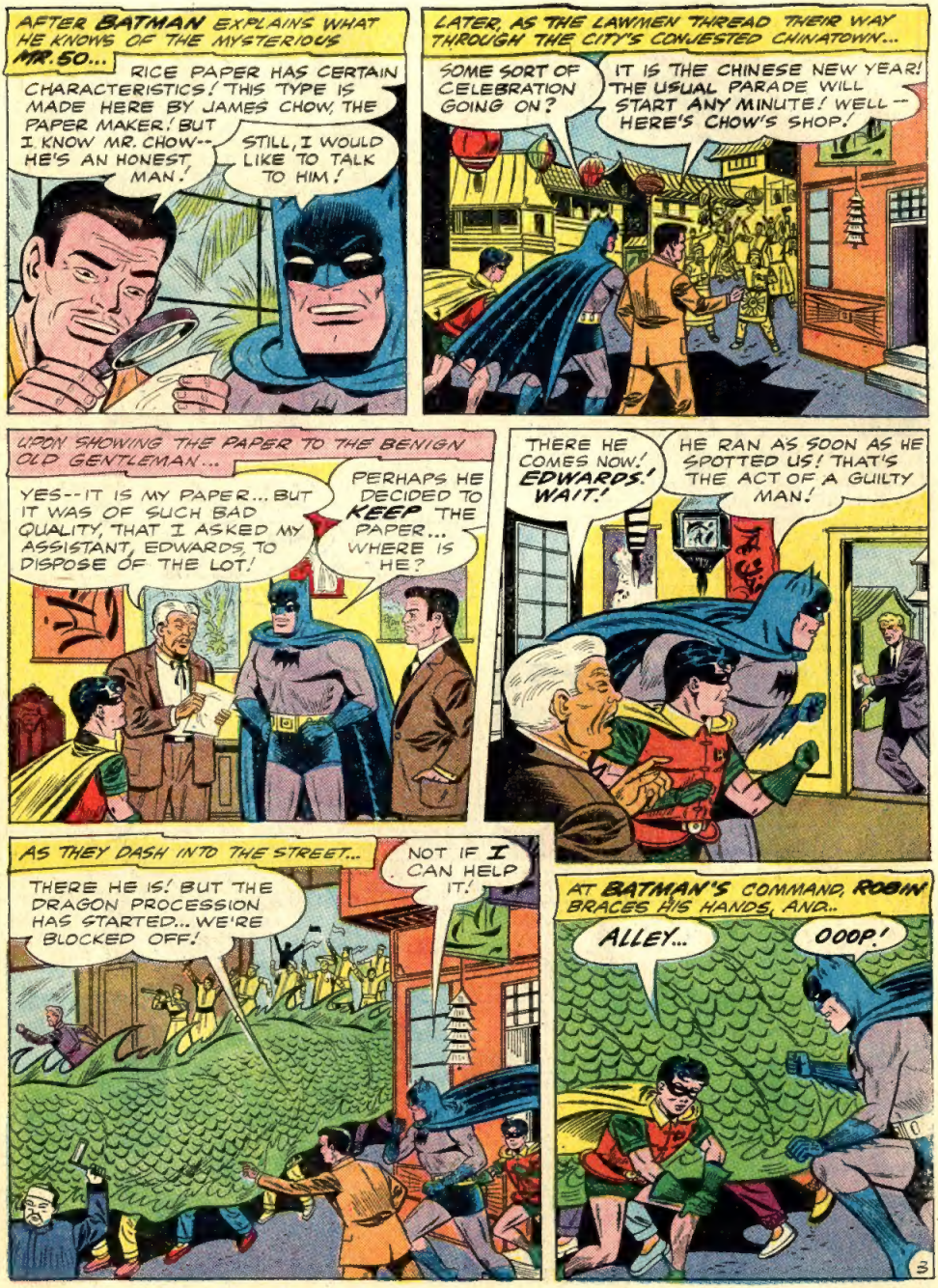

SOME GUY--I DON'T KNOW HIS NAME! HE IDENTIFIES HIMSELF WITH A $50 BILL--BECAUSE HIS BOSS IS CALLED MR. 50!
THE MYSTERIOUS MR. 50 WHOM NO ONE'S EVER SEEN! THAT TALLIES WITH WHAT WE'VE LEARNED! WHAT ELSE DO YOU KNOW ABOUT HIS HIRELING?

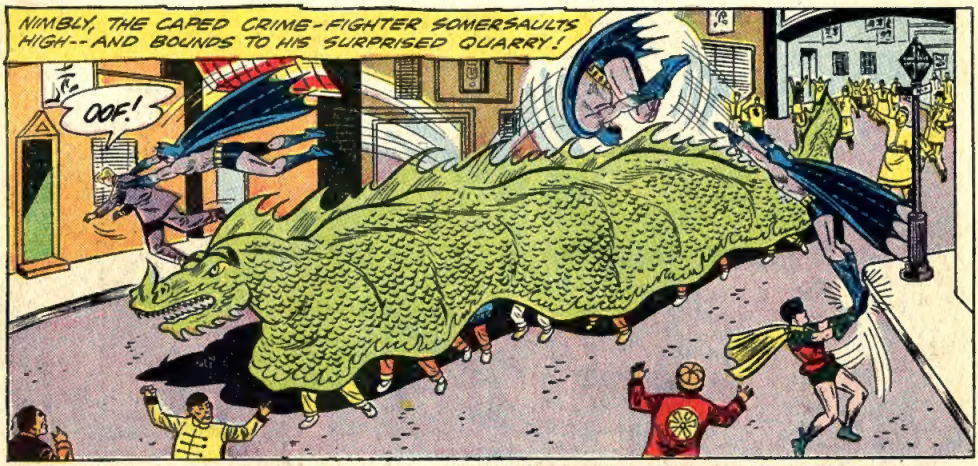

NOTHING--EXCEPT THAT HE USES STRANGE WORDS! ONCE, WHEN I TRIED TO CUT DOWN MY PRICE, HE CALLED ME A KAKU!
"KAKU"--AND WE KNOW THE GEMS ARE SMUGGLED IN FROM OVERSEAS! IT'S ALL STARTING TO ADD UP!

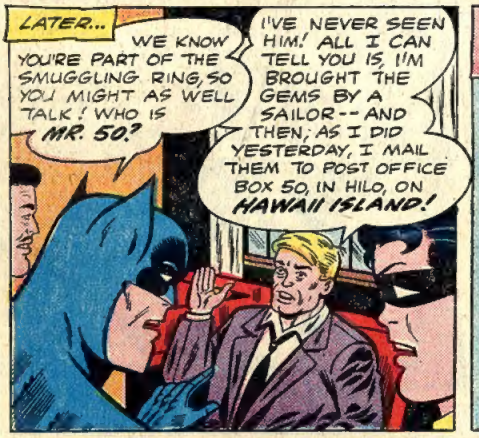

LATER, AFTER THE FENCE IS JAILED--THE SLEEK BAT-PLANE JETS SKYWARD...
ROBIN--THE WORD "KAKU" MEANS "BARRACUDA" IN HAWAIIAN! AND REMEMBER, THE SMUGGLING BOSS IS KNOWN AS MR. 50!
I GET IT! HAWAII IS OUR 50TH STATE...THAT MEANS MR. 50 MAY HAVE HIS HEADQUARTERS IN HAWAII!

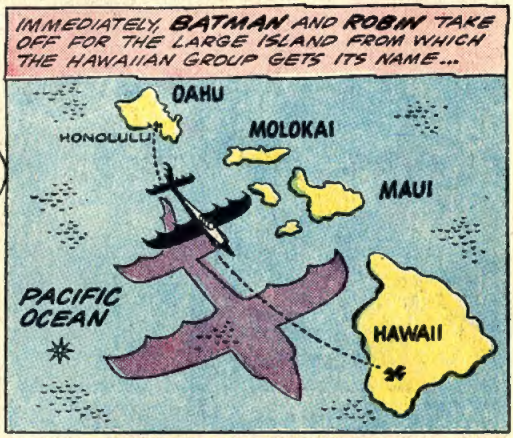

THUS, HOURS LATER, OVER THE ISLAND GROUP AFTLY CALLED, "THE JEWEL OF THE PACIFIC"...
THERE IT IS, ROBIN...DIAMOND HEAD, ON THE ISLAND OF OAHU--HAWAII'S FAMOUS LANDMARK! ONCE UPON A TIME, IT WAS AN ACTIVE VOLCANO!

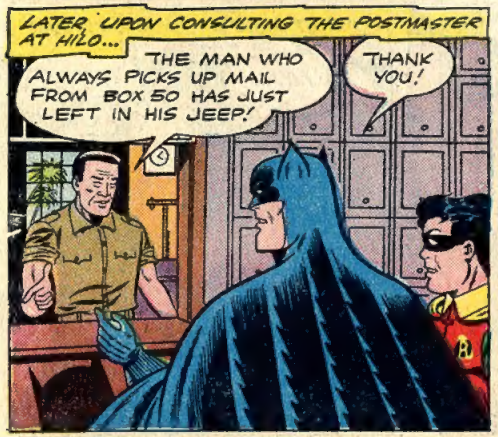

SOON AFTER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT...
BATMAN AND ROBIN--I'M HONORED! HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
FIRST, I'D LIKE YOU TO LOOK AT SOME RICE PAPER THAT WAS WRAPPED AROUND SMUGGLED DIAMONDS!

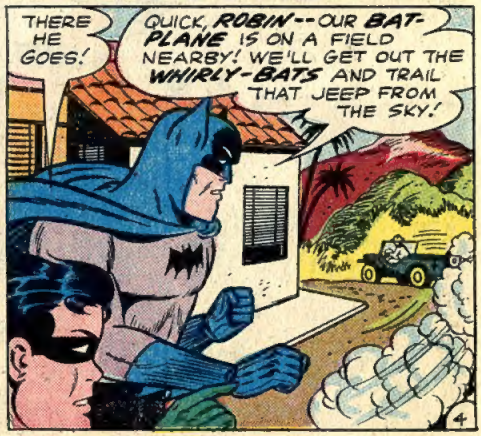

AFTER BATMAN EXPLAINS WHAT HE KNOWS OF THE MYSTERIOUS MR. SO...
RICE PAPER HAS CERTAIN CHARACTERISTICS! THIS TYPE IS MADE HERE BY JAMES CHOW, THE PAPER MAKER! BUT I KNOW MR. CHOW--HE'S AN HONEST MAN!
STILL, I WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO HIM!
LATER, AS THE LAWMEN THREAD THEIR WAY THROUGH THE CITY'S CONJESTED CHINATOWN...
SOME SORT OF CELEBRATION GOING ON?
IT IS THE CHINESE NEW YEAR! THE USUAL PARADE WILL START ANY MINUTE! WELL--HERE'S CHOW'S SHOP!
UPON SHOWING THE PAPER TO THE BENIGN OLD GENTLEMAN...
YES--IT IS MY PAPER... BUT IT WAS OF SUCH BAD QUALITY, THAT I ASKED MY ASSISTANT, EDWARDS, TO DISPOSE OF THE LOT!
PERHAPS HE DECIDED TO KEEP THE PAPER... WHERE IS HE?
THERE HE COMES NOW! EDWARDS! WAIT!
HE RAN AS SOON AS HE SPOTTED US! THAT'S THE ACT OF A GUILTY MAN!
AS THEY DASH INTO THE STREET...
THERE HE IS! BUT THE DRAGON PROCESSION HAS STARTED... WE'RE BLOCKED OFF!
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
AT BATMAN'S COMMAND, ROBIN BRACES HIS HANDS, AND...
ALLEY...
OOOP!
3

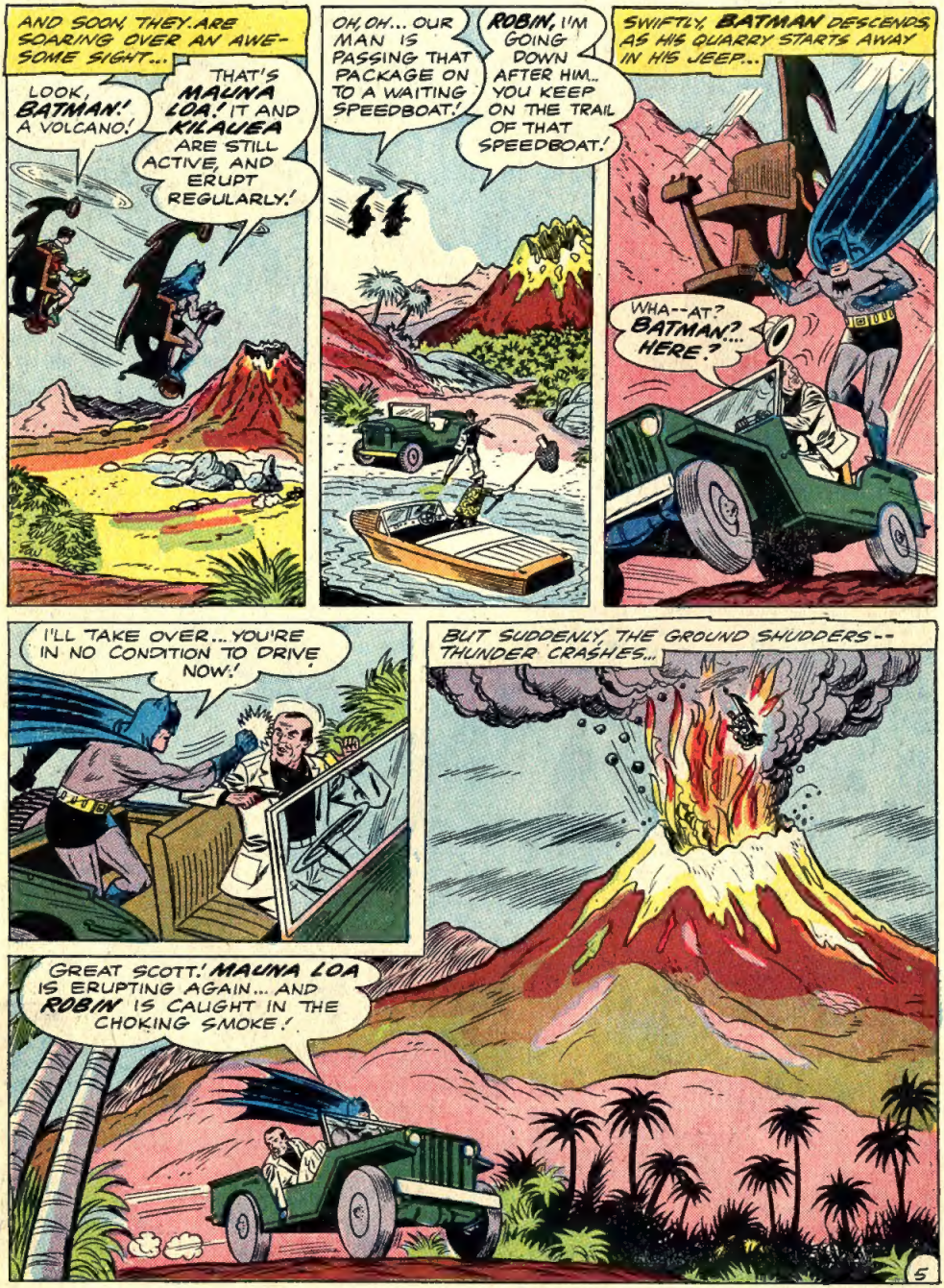

NIMBLY, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTER SOMERSAULTS HIGH--AND BOUNDS TO HIS SURPRISED QUARRY!
OOF!


LATER...
WE KNOW YOU'RE PART OF THE SMUGGLING RING, SO YOU MIGHT AS WELL TALK! WHO IS MR. 50?
I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM! ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS, I'M BROUGHT THE GEMS BY A SAILOR--AND THEN, AS I DID YESTERDAY, I MAIL THEM TO POST OFFICE BOX 50, IN HILO, ON HAWAII ISLAND!


IMMEDIATELY, BATMAN AND ROBIN TAKE OFF FOR THE LARGE ISLAND FROM WHICH THE HAWAIIAN GROUP GETS ITS NAME...
OAHU
HONOLULU
MOLOKAI
MAUI
PACIFIC OCEAN
HAWAII


LATER, UPON CONSULTING THE POSTMASTER AT HILO...
THE MAN WHO ALWAYS PICKS UP MAIL FROM BOX 50 HAS JUST LEFT IN HIS JEEP!
THANK YOU!


THERE HE GOES!
QUICK, ROBIN--OUR BAT-PLANE IS ON A FIELD NEARBY! WE'LL GET OUT THE WHIRLY-BATS AND TRAIL THAT JEEP FROM THE SKY!


AND SOON, THEY ARE SOARING OVER AN AWE-SOME SIGHT...
LOOK, BATMAN! A VOLCANO!
THAT'S MAUNA LOA! IT AND KILAUEA ARE STILL ACTIVE, AND ERUPT REGULARLY!
OH, OH... OUR MAN IS PASSING THAT PACKAGE ON TO A WAITING SPEEDBOAT!
ROBIN, I'M GOING DOWN AFTER HIM... YOU KEEP ON THE TRAIL OF THAT SPEEDBOAT!
SWIFTLY, BATMAN DESCENDS, AS HIS QUARRY STARTS AWAY IN HIS JEEP...
WHA--AT? BATMAN? HERE?
I'LL TAKE OVER... YOU'RE IN NO CONDITION TO DRIVE NOW!
BUT SUDDENLY, THE GROUND SHUDDERS-- THUNDER CRASHES...
GREAT SCOTT! MAUNA LOA IS ERUPTING AGAIN... AND ROBIN IS CAUGHT IN THE CHOKING SMOKE!

INSTANTLY, BATMAN RACES TO HIS WHIRLY-BAT AND SOARS SKYWARD...
JUST AS I FEARED... THE FUMES HAVE AFFECTED ROBIN! HE'LL DROP RIGHT INTO THAT MOLTEN LAVA--UNLESS I GET TO HIM FIRST!--
NEXT MOMENT, INCHES AWAY FROM FIERY DOOM...
GOT HIM!
LATER, WHEN ROBIN HAS RECOVERED...
WHO DID YOU PASS THAT PACKAGE TO? WAS IT MR. SO?
I JUST FOLLOW ORDERS--AS ALWAYS! IF THAT MAN IS MR. SO, I WOULDN'T KNOW IT! NONE OF US IN THE ORGANIZATION KNOWS WHO HE REALLY IS!
AFTER JAILING THEIR CAPTIVE, BATMAN AND ROBIN WING SEAWARD AGAIN, TO PICK UP THE TRAIL OF THE ELUSIVE MR. SO...
ROBIN, WE'RE IN LUCK! THERE'S THE SPEEDBOAT AHEAD! IT SEEMS TO BE HEADING FOR OAHU--HONOLULU'S ISLAND!
WE'RE GOING RIGHT BACK WHERE WE STARTED FROM! IT'S CRAZY!
NOT SO CRAZY, ROBIN! REMEMBER, MR. SO IS A CAREFUL MAN... BY PASSING HIS PACKAGES THROUGH A LOT OF HANDS, THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF THEIR BEING TRACED DIRECTLY TO HIM!
IN THAT CASE, WE'D BETTER NOT GRAB THAT MAN IN THE BOAT, UNTIL WE SEE WHO HE PASSES THE PACKAGE TO NEXT!
AND INDEED THAT IS ALREADY BATMAN'S PLAN--FOR SOMETIME LATER...
HE'S PUT IT IN AN OIL DRUM ON THAT SUGAR CANE PLANTATION!
I'LL WAIT HERE AND SEE WHO RETRIEVES IT! MEANWHILE, YOU GRAB THAT SEAMAN--FAR AWAY, SO YOU WON'T BE SEEN!
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ROBIN LEAVES AND BATMAN STARTS HIS LONE VIGIL -- WHEN SUDDENLY...
UHHH...
LUCKILY, I HEARD ABOUT THE ARREST OF EDWARDS -- AND WAS KEEPING A SHARP EYE OUT FOR BATMAN! NOW, I'LL DEPOSIT HIM FURTHER IN THE CANE FIELD -- AND AFTER THAT, HE'LL NEVER BOTHER ME AGAIN!
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LATER, WHEN ROBIN RETURNS...
WHAT'S GOING ON? ARE THEY DELIBERATELY BURNING THE CANE FIELDS?
YES -- IT IS ALWAYS DONE BEFORE THE HARVEST, TO REMOVE USELESS FOLIAGE! FLAMES CONSUME LEAVES AND TASSELS SO FAST, THE JUICY STALK IS UNHARMED!
AS THE FLAMES SPREAD LIKE WILDFIRE, BATMAN LIES A PRISONER WITHIN THEIR FIERY PATH!
I'M FINISHED! MR. SO TIED ME UP SO TIGHTLY, I CAN'T EVEN MOVE!
BUT SUDDENLY...
ROBIN! HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS HERE?
WHEN ROBIN NOTICED YOU WERE GONE FROM WHERE HE LEFT YOU, AND SAW THE CRANE'S TRACTOR-TREADMARK'S LEADING AWAY FROM IT, HE GUESSED WHAT HAPPENED! SO WE FOLLOWED THE TREADMARKS HERE!
MINUTES LATER, A FIGURE MOVES WARILY TOWARD THE OIL DRUM, AND...
NOW, I CAN SAFELY REMOVE THE PACKAGE AND... WHAT? BATMAN!... ALIVE!

DESPERATELY, MR. SO LEAPS ATOP A BUNDLE OF CUT CANE BEING WASHED DOWN TO THE MILL THROUGH A GREAT FLUME...

I'VE GOT MY CAR PARKED BELOW! THIS SHORT-CUT WILL GET ME DOWN THERE FASTER THAN BATMAN'S CAR CAN TAKE HIM!

BUT EVEN AS THE BUNDLE OF CANE RACES DOWN THE MOUNTAINSIDE, BATMAN PUTS AN END TO THE CUNNING OF MR. SO!

I'M FALLING! SAVE ME!

I CERTAINLY WILL--FOR THE HONOLULU PENITENTIARY!

LATER, AFTER MR. SO CONFESSES...

MR. SO, WHOSE REAL NAME IS NARKIN, USED HIS JOB AS FOREMAN ON THE PLANTATION TO SECRET STOLEN GOODS INSIDE HUGE SACKS OF SUGAR... SUGAR EXPORTED TO AMERICA!

HE PUT THE GEMS IN SUGAR SACKS SENT TO A CERTAIN DISTRIBUTOR IN GOTHAM CITY! BY CHECKING THE SHIPPING RECORDS, WE CAN ROUND UP THE REST OF THE GANG BACK HOME!

8

AND SO, THAT NIGHT, THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE HONORED GUESTS AT A LUAU (NATIVE FEAST)...

WELL--IT LOOKS LIKE ALL THAT EXERCISE HAS GIVEN ROBIN QUITE AN APPETITE!

YES--I THINK YOUR YOUNG PARTNER WILL FIND IT VERY HARD TO SAY ALOHA TO HAWAII!

the End


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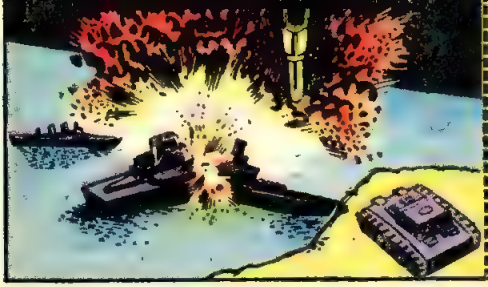

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FOREST HILLS 75, NEW YORK

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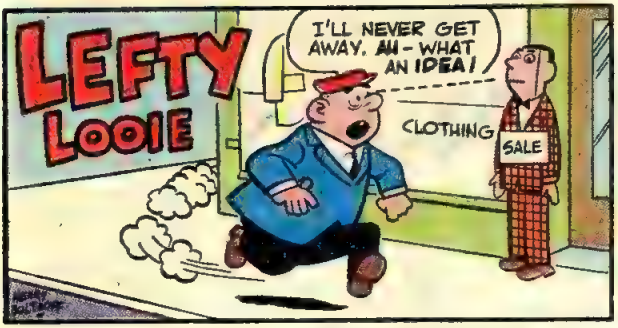


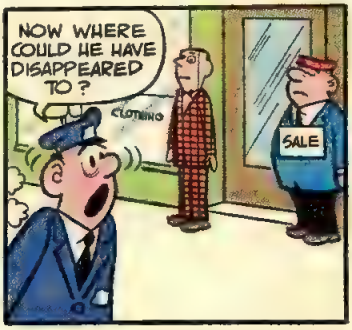

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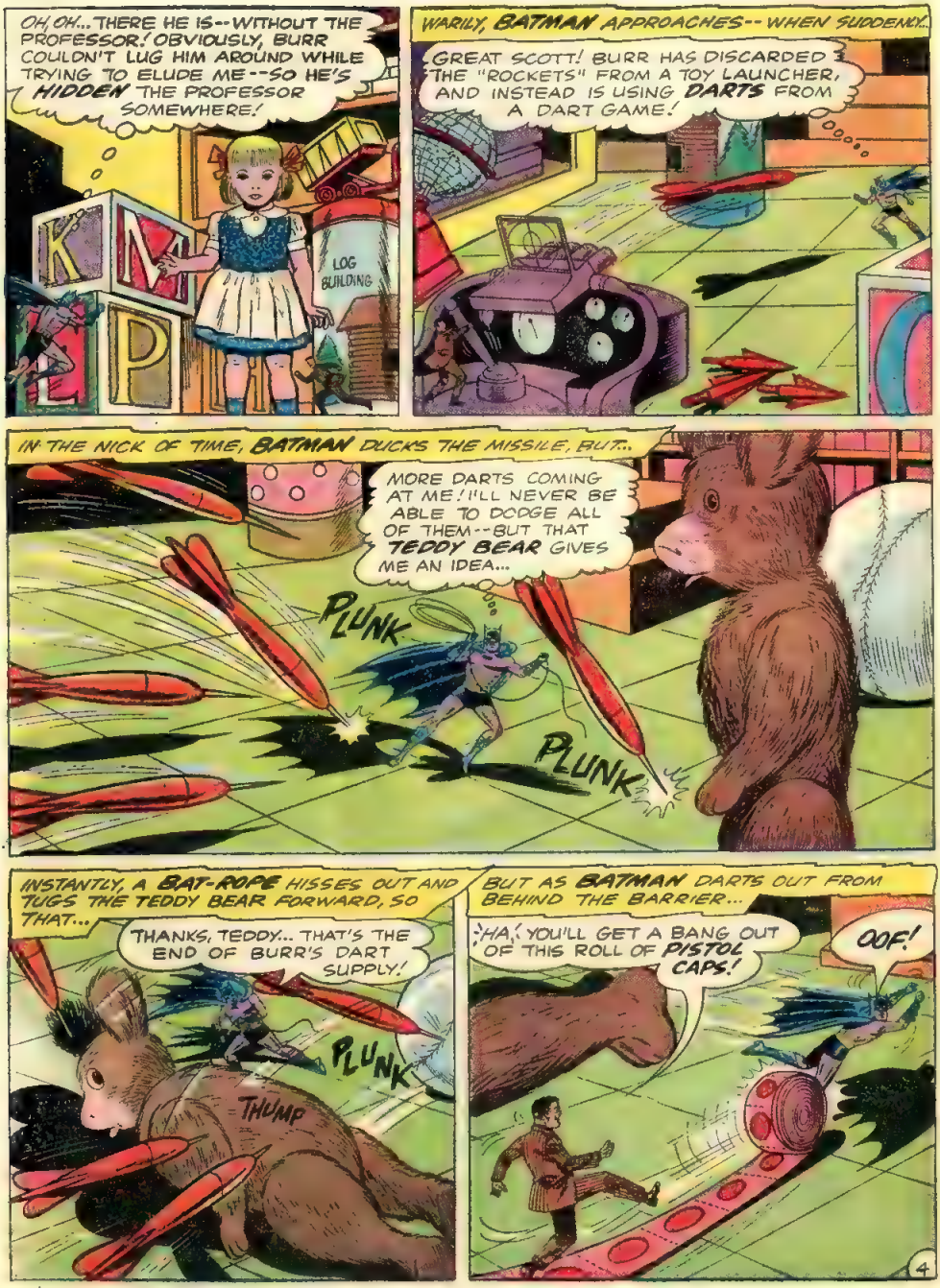
the TINIEST VILLAIN in the WORLD
BATMAN with ROBIN
GREAT SCOTT! BURR HAS SUBSTITUTED DARTS FOR THE ROCKETS OF THAT TOY LAUNCHER!
PLUNK
WHOOOSHHHH
PLUNK
BOB KANE

ON THE TRAIL OF A FLEEING FUGITIVE, BATMAN AND ROBIN SEARCH HIS ABANDONED HIDEOUT FOR CLUES TO HIS WHEREABOUTS...
BURR SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN THIS NEWSPAPER CLIPPING! IT'S A LEAD WE CAN'T IGNORE...
SCIENTIST INVENTS SHRINKING MACHINE
PROF. NORENZ CLAIMS HIS DEVICE CAN REDUCE A MAN TO AS LITTLE AS THREE INCHES
MEANWHILE, WHERE A SCIENTIST HAS BEEN WORKING LATE IN HIS LABORATORY..
WHA-AT? WHO ARE YOU?
THE NAME'S JOE BURR, PROFESSOR--AND YOU'RE GONNA SHOW ME HOW YOUR SHRINKING GADGET WORKS--IF YOU WANNA STAY ALIVE!
FORCED TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS, THE FRAIL SCIENTIST IS THEN GAGGED, BOUND--AND USED AS A HUMAN GUINEA PIG!
BOSS--LOOK! HE IS SHRINKING!
YEAH... NOW THAT I TEST IT ON HIM, I KNOW IT WORKS--AND I CAN USE IT ON MYSELF!
ZZZZZZZZ
YOURSELF?
SURE... I'VE GOT IT ALL PLANNED! NEAR HERE IS THE GOTHAM TOY COMPANY! IT'S EMPTY THIS LATE AT NIGHT--SO WE'RE GONNA BREAK IN! I'LL TAKE THE PROFESSOR ALONG--IN CASE HIS MACHINE EVER NEEDS REPAIRS...
SOON AFTER, WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN ENTER THE LAB..
THE PROFESSOR'S GONE--AND SO IS HIS INVENTION!
BUT HIS TAPE RECORDER IS STILL RUNNING! HE MUST HAVE BEEN DICTATING SOME NOTES INTO IT, WHEN BURR ARRIVED! I'LL PLAY IT BACK AND WE'LL HEAR WHAT WAS SAID...
AFTER LISTENING TO THE RECORDING...
HMM... SINCE ALL ESCAPE ROUTES ARE CLOSED TO HIM, I'LL WAGER BURR INTENDS TO SHRINK HIMSELF--HIDE IN A TOY SHIPMENT--AND GET HIMSELF SMUGGLED OUT OF THE COUNTRY!
WITH THE MACHINE AND THE PROFESSOR, TOO--TO SOME HIRELING WHO'LL THEN USE THE MACHINE TO MAKE HIM GROW BACK TO NORMAL SIZE!

SO, SHORTLY, AT THE GOTHAM TOY COMPANY, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CHARGE IN TO SEE...
THE PROFESSOR!...REDUCED IN SIZE! HE'S BOUND AND GAGGED!
SIZING UP THE SITUATION, BATMAN HURTLES AT THE THUG WORKING THE MACHINE...
TOO LATE--BURR IS ALREADY SHRINKING!
BY THE TIME THE CRIME-FIGHTERS CAN TURN THEIR ATTENTION TO BURR, THE NOW TINY CRIMINAL SCUTTLES AWAY...
NOW HE'S RUN OFF--AND TAKEN THE PROFESSOR WITH HIM! WITH HIS TINY SIZE, HE COULD HIDE ANYWHERE IN THIS PLACE!
I DON'T DARE LOOK FOR HIM! IN MY PRESENT SIZE, IF I MOVED AROUND, I MIGHT ACCIDENTALLY STEP ON THE PROFESSOR!
BUT IF I WERE BURR'S SIZE, I COULD HUNT HIM DOWN WITHOUT RISK TO THE PROFESSOR! ROBIN, I WANT YOU TO USE THE SHRINKING MACHINE ON ME!
MOMENTS LATER, BATMAN'S MUSCULAR FRAME GLOWS IN AN AURA OF WEIRD ENERGY...
ROBIN, CALL THE POLICE! TELL THEM TO SURROUND THE PLACE! AFTERWARD, YOU WAIT HERE WITH THE MACHINE--AND DON'T MOVE AROUND UNTIL I SIGNAL YOU!
OKAY... G-GOOD LUCK, BATMAN!
SOON, A MINIATURE MANHUNTER FINDS HIMSELF IN A VAST BATTLE ARENA...
BURR IS HERE SOMEWHERE--AND ALTHOUGH WE'RE BOTH SMALL, THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BIGGEST BATTLE OF MY CAREER!


OH, OH... THERE HE IS -- WITHOUT THE PROFESSOR! OBVIOUSLY, BURR COULDN'T LUG HIM AROUND WHILE TRYING TO ELUDE ME -- SO HE'S HIDDEN THE PROFESSOR SOMEWHERE!
LOG BUILDING
WARILY, BATMAN APPROACHES -- WHEN SUDDENLY...
GREAT SCOTT! BURR HAS DISCARDED THE "ROCKETS" FROM A TOY LAUNCHER, AND INSTEAD IS USING DARTS FROM A DART GAME!
IN THE NICK OF TIME, BATMAN DUCKS THE MISSILE, BUT...
MORE DARTS COMING AT ME! I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO DODGE ALL OF THEM -- BUT THAT TEDDY BEAR GIVES ME AN IDEA...
PLUNK
PLUNK
INSTANTLY, A BAT-ROPE HISSES OUT AND TUGS THE TEDDY BEAR FORWARD, SO THAT...
THANKS, TEDDY... THAT'S THE END OF BURR'S DART SUPPLY!
PLUNK
THUMP
BUT AS BATMAN DARTS OUT FROM BEHIND THE BARRIER...
HA! YOU'LL GET A BANG OUT OF THIS ROLL OF PISTOL CAPS!
OOF!

BY THE TIME BATMAN CAN RECOVER HIS BREATH...
BURR IS HITCHING A RIDE ON A "ROCKET" HE'S LAUNCHED! HE'LL LAND SAFELY ON THE COTTON PADDING AROUND THAT DELICATE GLASS ANIMAL! I'LL HAVE A JOB LOCATING HIM NOW!
IN THAT SAME MOMENT..
THE WAREHOUSE'S MOUSE-CHASER! GOOD GRIEF--HE LOOKS BIG AS A DINOSAUR!
ONCE AGAIN, SUPERB AGILITY SAVES BATMAN FROM CERTAIN DOOM...
THAT TOY AHEAD--A CLIMB-THE-WALL BIRD! BY PRESSING DOWN ITS TAIL FEATHERS, YOU START ITS SPRING-MOTOR!
RA-A-A-G-H-H
INDEED, AS THE SPRING WINDS DOWN--AND AS THE TOY STOPS, THE CAT AGAIN LEAPS!
THIS SHELF-BRACKET...I CAN GRAB IT AND CLIMB ONTO THE SHELF ITSELF!
SLAPPING THE TAIL, BATMAN LEAPS ASTRIDE HIS BIZARRE STEED AS ITS SUCTION-CUPPED FEET SLOWLY CLIMB THE WALL...
THE CAT'S PUZZLED--BUT I'M AFRAID IT'LL ONLY BE FOR A FEW MINUTES!..
CLICK-CLICK-CLICK-
CLICK-CLICK-CLICK-CLICK
6

BUT EVEN AS THE THREAT OF DEATH REMAINS..
ANY MINUTE NOW THAT CAT WILL GET WISE AND MAKE AN EASY JUMP FROM A HIGH BOX! HMM--THAT MODEL OF AN OLD MUZZLE-LOADER... IT GIVES ME AN IDEA!
STRAINING AGAINST THE HEAVY CANNON, BATMAN ROLLS IT FORWARD--AS THE CAT EYES A NEARBY BOX...
UHH--GOT TO MAKE IT--NOT MUCH TIME--EVERY SECOND COUNTS--UHH...
AT LAST, THE WHEELS TIP--AND THE HEAVY CANNON PLUNGES DOWN, TO SLAM LIKE A HAMMER AGAINST CAP-PISTOL POWDER CAPS!
I'LL BET THAT'S THE FIRST TIME GUN-POWDER WAS USED WITH A CANNON THIS WAY! IT'LL SEND THAT SCARED TABBY SCOOTING RIGHT OUT OF HERE!
BANG
BANG BANG
SSS SSS
NEXT, BATMAN MAKES A SPECTACULAR DESCENT--BY STANDING ATOP A JACK-IN-THE-BOX, AND RELEASING THE CATCH...
BOING
THEN, SPREADING HIS "PARACHUTE"--A SAIL TAKEN FROM A MODEL FRIGATE...
THERE'S BURR! I'VE GOT HIM PINPOINTED NOW... BUT HE'S ARMED WITH A LANCE FROM A TOY KNIGHT!
6

DODGING INTO THE SHADOWS, BATMAN WARILY STALKS HIS QUARRY, UNTIL ...

HMM... I MAY BE A TINY LAWMAN NOW--BUT I CAN STILL CARRY OUT MY JOB BY USING A PIECE OF THAT EQUIPMENT!

POLICEMAN'S KIT FOR BOYS

SOME SWIFT PREPARATIONS IN THE SHADOWS--AND MOMENTS LATER, AS A RUBBER BALL COMES ROLLING TOWARD BURR...

MY PLAN WORKED! THAT DARK "ALLEY" BETWEEN THE PACKING CASES WAS HIS ONLY ESCAPE ROUTE! HE THINKS HE'LL LOSE ME NOW!

BUT, ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CASES...

BURR DIDN'T KNOW I'D PLACED THE OPEN INK PAD, FROM THAT BOY'S POLICEMAN'S KIT IN THE DARK ALLEY! NOW HIS FOOT-PRINTS POINT THE DIRECTION HE'S TAKEN!

THEN, AFTER LEAPING ATOP A ROLLER-SKATE...

IF MY AIM IS RIGHT, THIS SKATE SHOULD GRAZE THAT DINOSAUR KIT DISPLAY SAMPLE...

DINOS MODE

AND SO IT DOES--WITH A GLANCING BLOW THAT KNOCKS THE MODEL CREATURE OFF-BALANCE, AND...

YIIII!

THAT'S THAT, BURR! SOON, YOU'LL BE TRANSFERRED FROM THAT RIB CAGE--TO A CAGE IN THE STATE PRISON!
FINALLY, WITH A CRAYON, BATMAN LABORIOUSLY WRITES A MESSAGE TO ROBIN...
"OKAY"... THAT MEANS BATMAN WANTS ME TO TURN HIM BACK TO NORMAL WITH THE MACHINE!
OKAY
MOMENTS LATER, GLAD TO BE HIS SIX-FOOT STATURE AGAIN, BATMAN RETRIEVES HIS TINY CAPTIVE, AND...
BURR, SO FAR YOU'RE CHARGED WITH ARMED ROBBERY... BUT UNLESS YOU TELL WHERE YOU'VE HIDDEN PROFESSOR NORENZ, HE'LL DIE--AND YOU'LL FACE A MURDER CHARGE!
I-I'LL TALK, BATMAN!
8
AND SO, AFTER FINDING THE PROFESSOR AND, RESTORING HIM AND BURR TO NORMAL SIZE...
BATMAN, EVEN THREE INCHES HIGH, YOU WERE STILL THE BIGGEST CRIME-FIGHTER!
YES--AND ONE LOOK AT THIS SO-CALLED CRIMINAL BIG SHOT PROVES IT!
THE END


A FANTASTIC New Adventure...

BENEATH the EARTH!

ONCE AGAIN, Cave Carson AND HIS FRIENDS BURROW BENEATH THE EARTH'S CRUST IN THE MIGHTY MOLE, TO BATTLE BIZARRE MENACES in... "THREE CAVERNS of DOOM!"

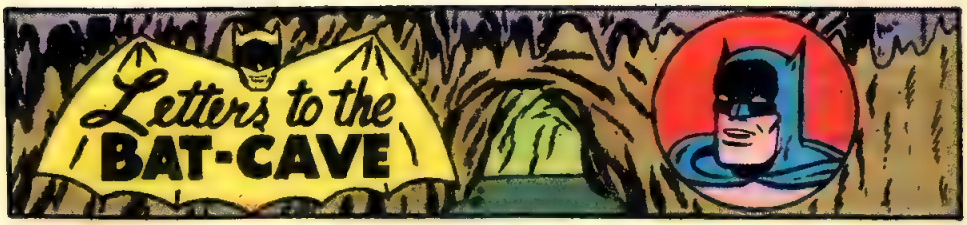
A 3-PART THRILLER...

INSIDE EARTH

IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF... THE BRAVE and the BOLD

SUPERMAN DC

ON SALE EVERYWHERE DEC. 21st




Dear Editor: I've read about criminals being identified through their fingerprints, or the shape of their ears. How about a man's eyes—could they pinpoint his identity?

Jim Mulligan, Springfield, Ill.

*(Yes. Like fingerprints, the vein patterns of the eyes differ from person to person. BATMAN, over the years, has collected a file of close-up color photographs of criminals' eyes, revealing their unique vein formations. He has found this file invaluable, for example, in identifying a crook who has undergone plastic surgery.—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: BAT-MITE and MR. MXYZPTLK are about the zaniest pair of trouble-makers I've ever seen, and I'm sure everyone who read your first story about them agrees with me. Maybe BATMAN, ROBIN and SUPERMAN wouldn't like to see those two imps return to our dimension, but I'll bet all your readers would.

Marge Spencer, Raleigh, N. C.

*(Right on both counts, Marge! In the FEBRUARY issue of WORLD'S FINEST COMICS, No. 123, BATMAN, ROBIN and SUPERMAN will again be having their hands full with "THE INCREDIBLE TEAM OF BAT-MITE AND MR. MXYZPTLK!"—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: Where does BAT-HOUND stay when he's not out on a case with BATMAN and ROBIN?

Alvin Edwards, Utica, N. Y.

*(With his mask and costume off, BAT-HOUND, like his famous masters, has a secret identity. He is simply Ace, the house pet of Bruce Wayne and Dick Grayson.—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: Suppose, when they're some distance apart, BATMAN and ROBIN find it necessary to conduct a long strategy conference via their belt-radios. Wouldn't some cunning crook be able to tune in on such a conference with his own radio receiver?

Martin Muller, Joplin, Mo.

*(The belt-radios operate on a number of secret wavelengths, which are changed from time to time. In any long conversation, BATMAN and ROBIN would switch from one wavelength to another—often enough to prevent anyone who might possibly tune in on them from hearing more than bits of meaningless talk.—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: I think super-scientific criminals make the best opponents for BATMAN and ROBIN. Please alert me when you're planning another such adventure.

Jeff Bellows, Tucson, Ariz.

*("THE BIZARRE POLKA-DOT MAN" is just the sort of criminal you mean. BATMAN and ROBIN come up against him in the FEBRUARY issue of DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 300.—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: A friend of mine, who's a BATMAN fan, boasted that BATMAN could solve a murder case just by examining the victim's *beard*. How would that be possible?

"Mac" MacDonald, Spokane, Wash.

*(That's a pretty "iffy" question, but I'm sure BATMAN would be up to it. The situation could be something like this: A man summons the police to the home of his business partner, and there points out the body of the partner, his hand still clutching the gun—an evident suicide. There is also a suicide note, dated three days earlier. The man who has called the police claims he entered the house, with a duplicate key he possessed, to find out why he couldn't contact the dead man for the past three days. However, BATMAN, who's come along with the police, notices that the victim's face is clean-shaven. That would mean his partner must have been lying, because a beard continues to grow for a while after a man dies. If this man had taken his own life three days earlier, there should have been a stubble on his face. BATMAN therefore deduces that the partner killed the man that same morning, and then forged the suicide note.—Ed.)*

* * *

Dear Editor: Has BATMAN ever had a case in which his opponent seemed to be some entity from the *supernatural* world?

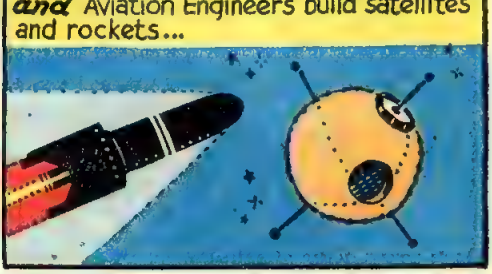
Lee Hines, Culver, Colo.

*(Yes, he did, when he came up against "THE DEADLY CURSE OF KORABO," appearing in the MARCH issue of BATMAN COMICS, No. 146.—Ed.)*

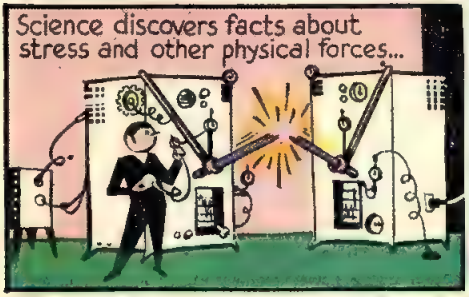
# LET SCIENCE SERVE YOU!

Science discovers information about fuels and thrust...

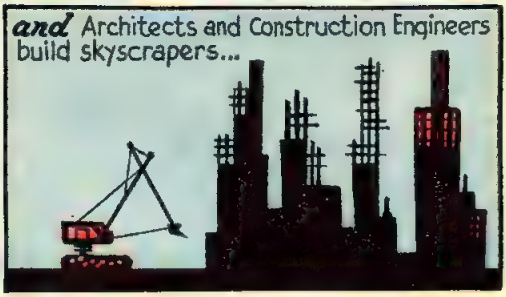
*and* Aviation Engineers build satellites and rockets...



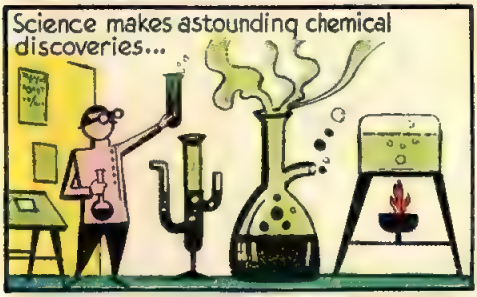
Science discovers facts about stress and other physical forces...



*and* Architects and Construction Engineers build skyscrapers...

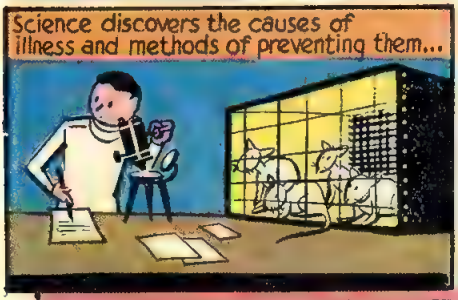


Science makes astounding chemical discoveries...

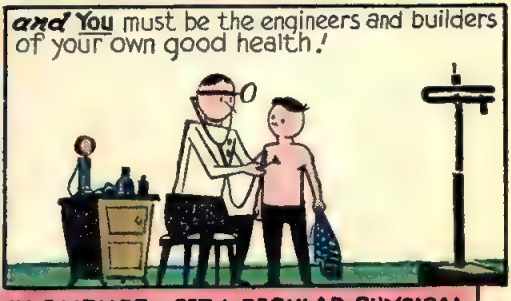


*and* Manufacturers make things out of fiberglass, nylon, plastics...

Science discovers the causes of illness and methods of preventing them...



*and* You must be the engineers and builders of your own good health!



**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LATEST IN SCIENCE--GET A REGULAR PHYSICAL CHECK-UP AND IMMUNIZATION AGAINST POLIO, TETANUS AND OTHER DISEASES!**

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

ONE DAY, BATMAN WILL HAVE TO RETIRE...ONE DAY, ANOTHER BATMAN WILL CARRY ON HIS FAMED TRADITION! HERE IS A STORY OF SUCH A FUTURE--A FUTURE IN WHICH THE SECOND BATMAN MEETS A SECOND JOKER! WILL THE NEW BATMAN AND ROBIN BE VICTORIOUS, AS THE ELDER BATMAN WAS AGAINST HIS NOTORIOUS FOE? READ ON, AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE SECOND BATMAN AND ROBIN TEAM FIGHTS...
BATMAN
With ROBIN THE BOY WONDER
the SON of THE JOKER
¡HA, HA! I'LL ESCAPE FROM YOU AS EASILY AS MY FAMOUS FATHER DID!
FASTER, ROBIN--FASTER! THE HONOR OF THE BATMAN NAME IS AT STAKE!
BOB KANE

THESE ARE THE HANDS OF ALFRED, FOR MANY YEARS THE BUTLER AND CONFIDANT OF BRUCE (BATMAN) WAYNE...

I, ALFRED, AM AGAIN TYPING AN ADVENTURE THAT MAY TAKE PLACE IN THE FUTURE, AFTER BATMAN HAS DECIDED HE'S BECOME TOO OLD FOR CRIME-FIGHTING...

"LONG AGO, BRUCE WAYNE MARRIED KATHY (BATWOMAN) KANE -- AND AS THEY WATCHED THEIR SON, BRUCE JR., GROW INTO A FINE BOY, THEY REACHED A DECISION..."

DICK, IT'S TIME I RETIRED NOW -- SO INSTEAD OF BEING ROBIN ANY LONGER, YOU WILL REPLACE ME AS BATMAN!

AND YOU, SON, WILL CARRY ON THE FAMILY TRADITION BY BECOMING THE NEW ROBIN!

"THUS WAS BORN THE NEW HEROIC TEAM OF BATMAN II AND ROBIN II, ONE OF WHOSE EXCITING ADVENTURES BEGAN IN AN UNEXPECTED WAY..."

HERE WE GO, ROBIN -- AS JUDGES AT THE WATER SKIING OBSTACLE RACE THAT'S BEING PUT ON FOR CHARITY!

UH-HUH... THE WINNER OF THE RACE GETS $5,000 CASH IN A GOLD VICTORY CUP!

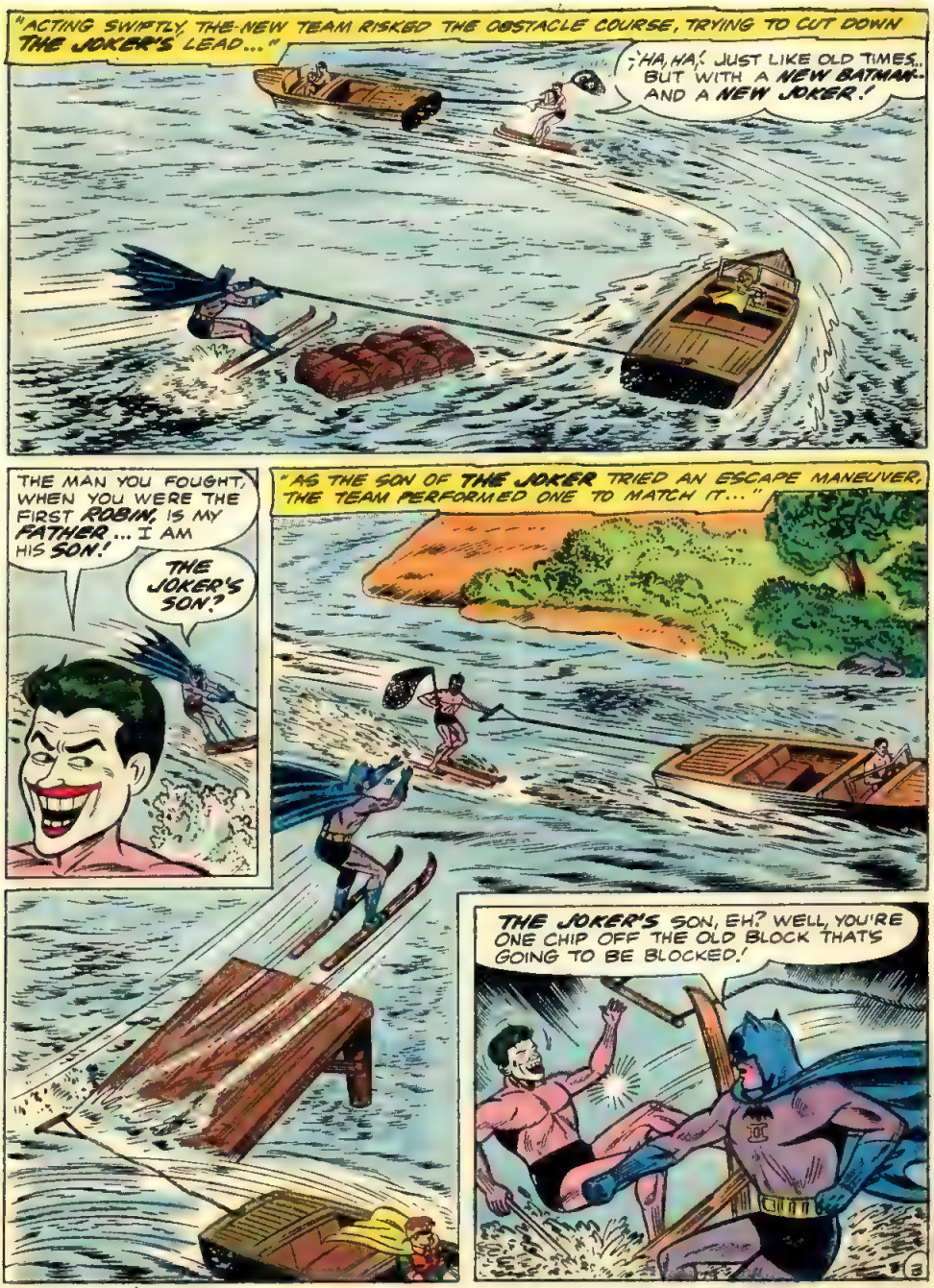
"AT THE JUDGES' PLATFORM, BEFORE THE RACE STARTED, A MOTORBOAT SUDDENLY FLASHED OUT FROM BENEATH THE PIER, AND..."

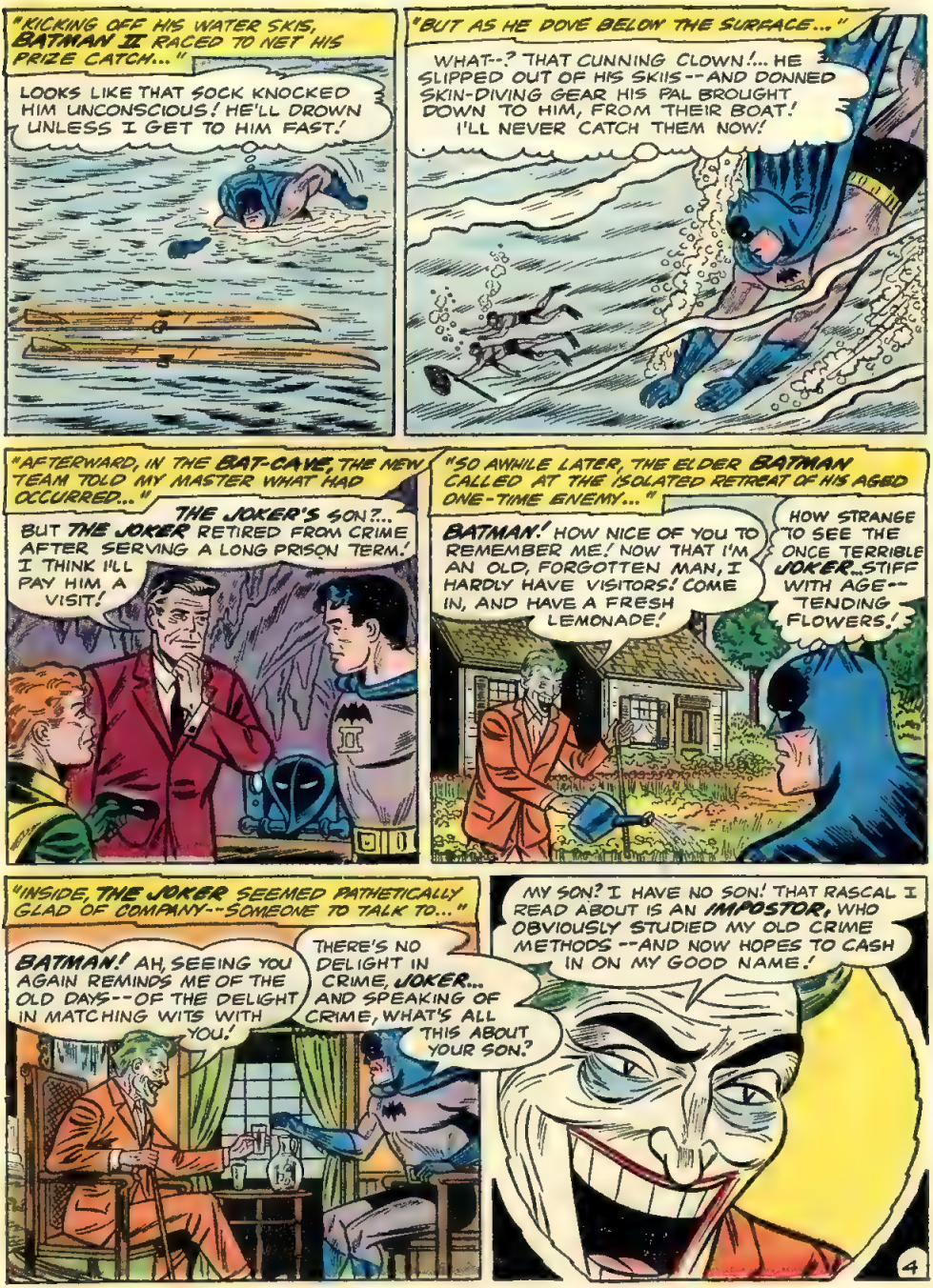
I'VE JUST DECLARED MYSELF THE VICTOR-;HA, HA,! AND TO THE VICTOR BELONGS THE SPOILS... ;HA, HA, HA,!

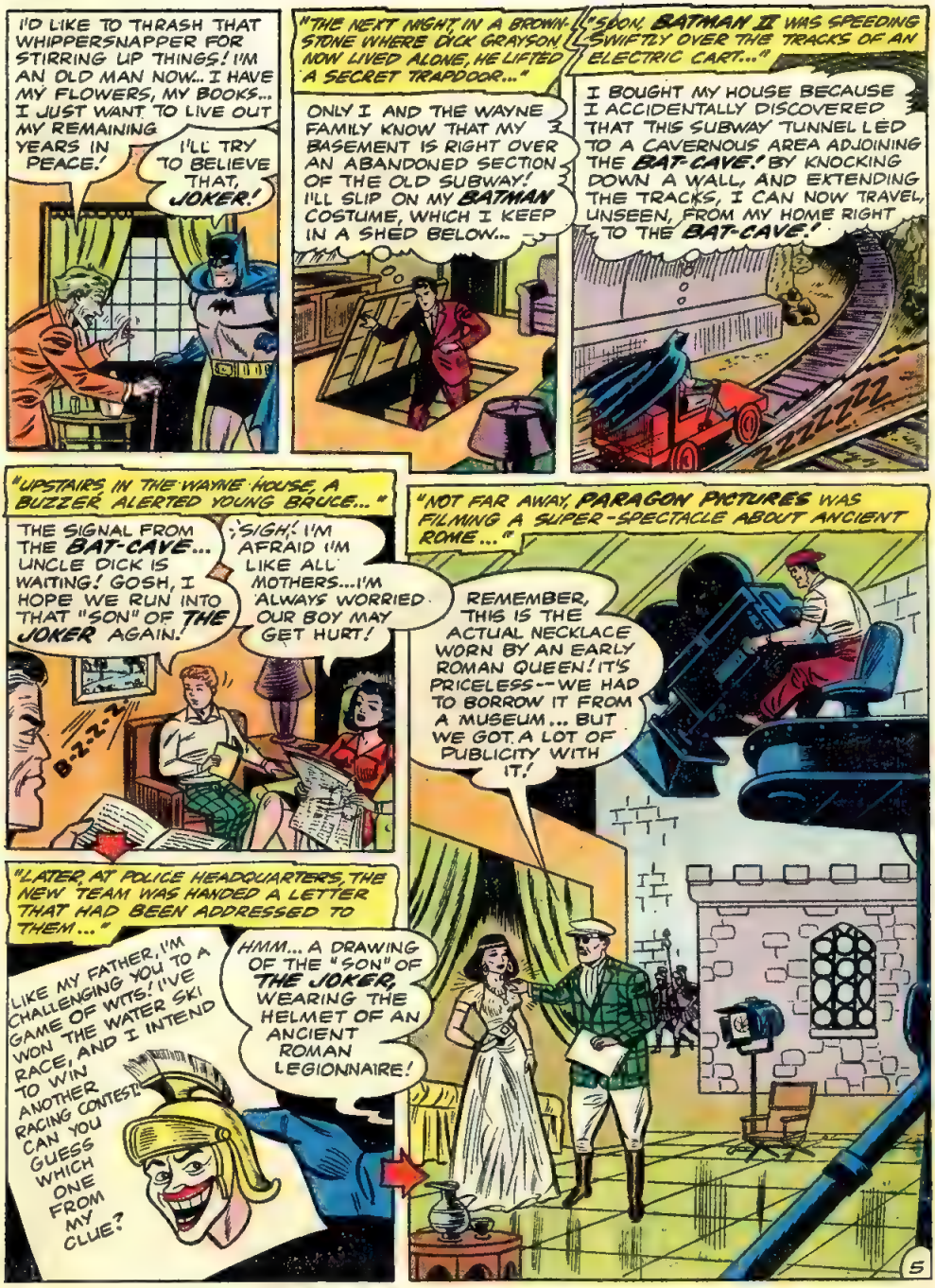
"THE NEW CRIME-FIGHTING COMBINE ARRIVED JUST AS THE BANDIT SPED OFF WITH HIS LOOT...

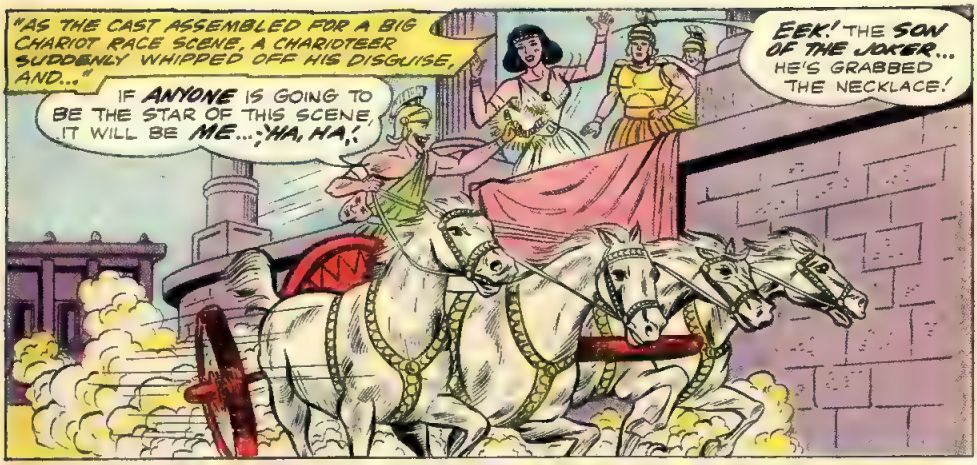
;HA, HA, HA,!

GREAT SCOTT!... THE JOKER!... AND HE LOOKS AS YOUNG AS EVER! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE -- THE JOKER IS A TIRED OLD MAN NOW!

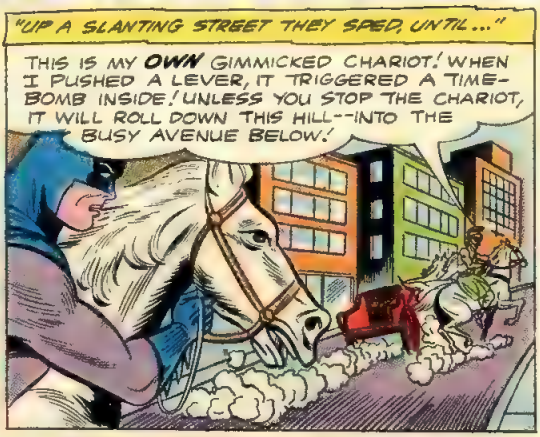

"ACTING SWIFTLY, THE NEW TEAM RISKED THE OBSTACLE COURSE, TRYING TO CUT DOWN THE JOKER'S LEAD..."
"HA, HA! JUST LIKE OLD TIMES... BUT WITH A NEW BATMAN AND A NEW JOKER!"
THE MAN YOU FOUGHT, WHEN YOU WERE THE FIRST ROBIN, IS MY FATHER... I AM HIS SON!
THE JOKER'S SON?
"AS THE SON OF THE JOKER TRIED AN ESCAPE MANEUVER, THE TEAM PERFORMED ONE TO MATCH IT..."
THE JOKER'S SON, EH? WELL, YOU'RE ONE CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK THAT'S GOING TO BE BLOCKED!

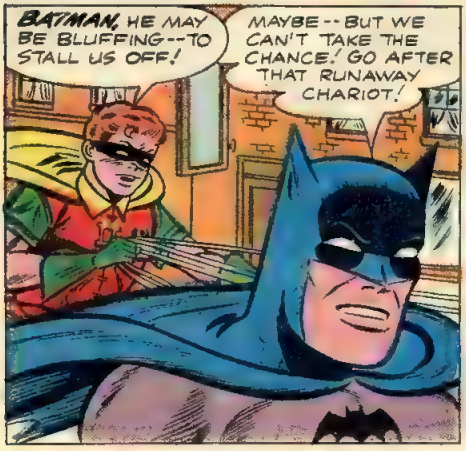

"KICKING OFF HIS WATER SKIS, BATMAN II RACED TO NET HIS PRIZE CATCH..."
LOOKS LIKE THAT SOCK KNOCKED HIM UNCONSCIOUS! HE'LL DROWN UNLESS I GET TO HIM FAST!
"BUT AS HE DOVE BELOW THE SURFACE..."
WHAT--? THAT CUNNING CLOWN!... HE SLIPPED OUT OF HIS SKIIS--AND DONNED SKIN-DIVING GEAR HIS PAL BROUGHT DOWN TO HIM, FROM THEIR BOAT! I'LL NEVER CATCH THEM NOW!
"AFTERWARD, IN THE BAT-CAVE, THE NEW TEAM TOLD MY MASTER WHAT HAD OCCURRED..."
THE JOKER'S SON?... BUT THE JOKER RETIRED FROM CRIME AFTER SERVING A LONG PRISON TERM! I THINK I'LL PAY HIM A VISIT!
"SO AWHILE LATER, THE ELDER BATMAN CALLED AT THE ISOLATED RETREAT OF HIS AGED ONE-TIME ENEMY..."
BATMAN! HOW NICE OF YOU TO REMEMBER ME! NOW THAT I'M AN OLD, FORGOTTEN MAN, I HARDLY HAVE VISITORS! COME IN, AND HAVE A FRESH LEMONADE!
HOW STRANGE TO SEE THE ONCE TERRIBLE JOKER...STIFF WITH AGE--TENDING FLOWERS!
"INSIDE, THE JOKER SEEMED PATHETICALLY GLAD OF COMPANY--SOMEONE TO TALK TO..."
BATMAN! AH, SEEING YOU AGAIN REMINDS ME OF THE OLD DAYS--OF THE DELIGHT IN MATCHING WITS WITH YOU!
THERE'S NO DELIGHT IN CRIME, JOKER... AND SPEAKING OF CRIME, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT YOUR SON?
MY SON? I HAVE NO SON! THAT RASCAL I READ ABOUT IS AN IMPOSTOR, WHO OBVIOUSLY STUDIED MY OLD CRIME METHODS--AND NOW HOPES TO CASH IN ON MY GOOD NAME!

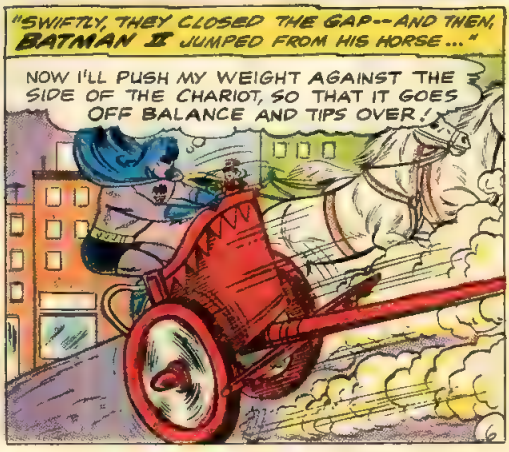

I'D LIKE TO THRASH THAT WHIPPERSNAPPER FOR STIRRING UP THINGS! I'M AN OLD MAN NOW... I HAVE MY FLOWERS, MY BOOKS... I JUST WANT TO LIVE OUT MY REMAINING YEARS IN PEACE!
I'LL TRY TO BELIEVE THAT, JOKER!
"THE NEXT NIGHT, IN A BROWNSTONE WHERE DICK GRAYSON NOW LIVED ALONE, HE LIFTED A SECRET TRAPDOOR..."
ONLY I AND THE WAYNE FAMILY KNOW THAT MY BASEMENT IS RIGHT OVER AN ABANDONED SECTION OF THE OLD SUBWAY! I'LL SLIP ON MY BATMAN COSTUME, WHICH I KEEP IN A SHED BELOW...
"SOON, BATMAN II WAS SPEEDING SWIFTLY OVER THE TRACKS OF AN ELECTRIC CART..."
I BOUGHT MY HOUSE BECAUSE I ACCIDENTALLY DISCOVERED THAT THIS SUBWAY TUNNEL LED TO A CAVERNOUS AREA ADJOINING THE BAT-CAVE! BY KNOCKING DOWN A WALL, AND EXTENDING THE TRACKS, I CAN NOW TRAVEL, UNSEEN, FROM MY HOME RIGHT TO THE BAT-CAVE!
ZZZZZZ
"UPSTAIRS IN THE WAYNE HOUSE, A BUZZER ALERTED YOUNG BRUCE..."
THE SIGNAL FROM THE BAT-CAVE... UNCLE DICK IS WAITING! GOSH, I HOPE WE RUN INTO THAT "SON" OF THE JOKER AGAIN!
;SIGH; I'M AFRAID I'M LIKE ALL MOTHERS...I'M ALWAYS WORRIED OUR BOY MAY GET HURT!
B-Z-Z-Z
"NOT FAR AWAY, PARAGON PICTURES WAS FILMING A SUPER-SPECTACLE ABOUT ANCIENT ROME..."
REMEMBER, THIS IS THE ACTUAL NECKLACE WORN BY AN EARLY ROMAN QUEEN! IT'S PRICELESS--WE HAD TO BORROW IT FROM A MUSEUM... BUT WE GOT A LOT OF PUBLICITY WITH IT!
"LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, THE NEW TEAM WAS HANDED A LETTER THAT HAD BEEN ADDRESSED TO THEM..."
LIKE MY FATHER, I'M CHALLENGING YOU TO A GAME OF WITS! I'VE WON THE WATER SKI RACE, AND I INTEND TO WIN ANOTHER RACING CONTEST! CAN YOU GUESS WHICH ONE FROM MY CLUE?
HMM... A DRAWING OF THE "SON" OF THE JOKER, WEARING THE HELMET OF AN ANCIENT ROMAN LEGIONNAIRE!


"AS THE CAST ASSEMBLED FOR A BIG CHARIOT RACE SCENE, A CHARIOTEER SUDDENLY WHIPPED OFF HIS DISGUISE, AND..."
IF ANYONE IS GOING TO BE THE STAR OF THIS SCENE, IT WILL BE ME...;HA, HA,!
EEK! THE SON OF THE JOKER... HE'S GRABBED THE NECKLACE!

"BUT, AS THE NEW 'JOKER' WHIPPED HIS CHARIOT OUT OF THE STUDIO LOT--A REAL RACE ENSUED..."
SO YOU FIGURED OUT MY CLUE, EH? WELL--IT WON'T DO YOU MUCH GOOD...;HA, HA, HA,!
PARAGON PICTURES


"UP A SLANTING STREET THEY SPED, UNTIL..."
THIS IS MY OWN GIMMICKED CHARIOT! WHEN I PUSHED A LEVER, IT TRIGGERED A TIME-BOMB INSIDE! UNLESS YOU STOP THE CHARIOT, IT WILL ROLL DOWN THIS HILL--INTO THE BUSY AVENUE BELOW!

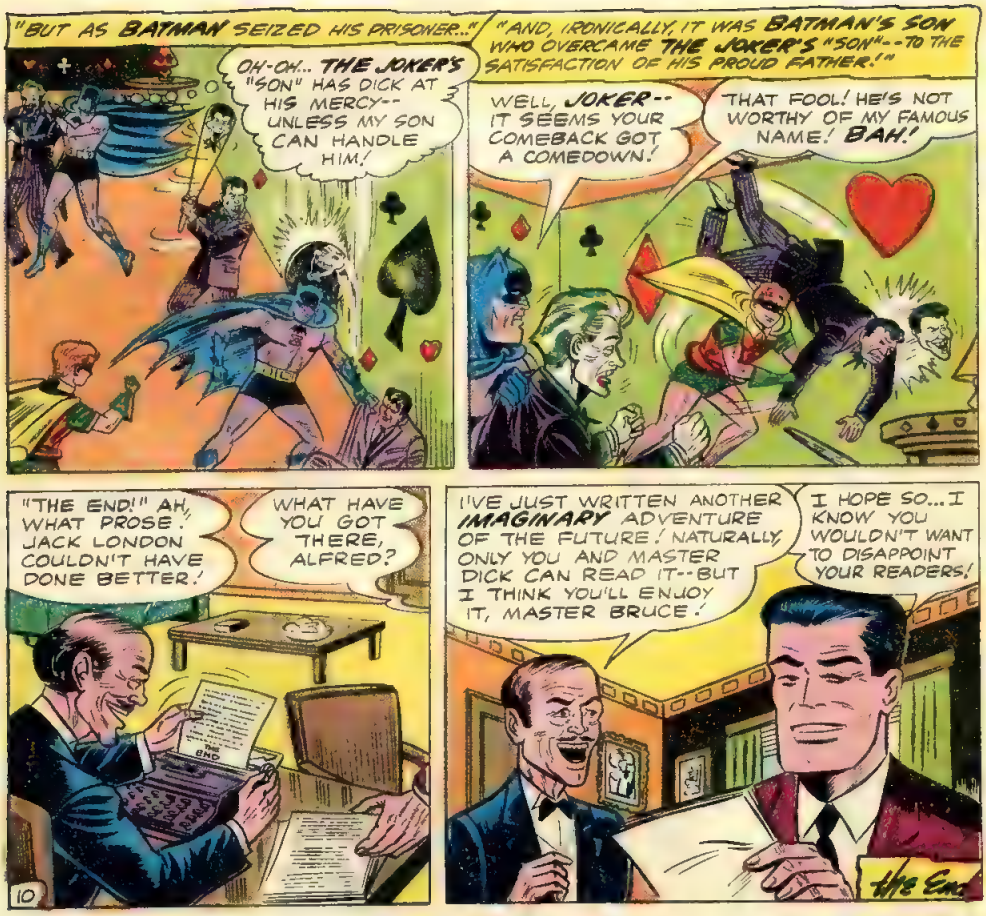

BATMAN, HE MAY BE BLUFFING--TO STALL US OFF!
MAYBE--BUT WE CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE! GO AFTER THAT RUNAWAY CHARIOT!


"SWIFTLY, THEY CLOSED THE GAP--AND THEN, BATMAN II JUMPED FROM HIS HORSE..."
NOW I'LL PUSH MY WEIGHT AGAINST THE SIDE OF THE CHARIOT, SO THAT IT GOES OFF BALANCE AND TIPS OVER!

"WHILE AT WORK, THE CRIME-FIGHTERS WERE UNAWARE THAT A PASSERBY WAS WATCHING THEM..."
HE DID HAVE A BOMB IN THE CHARIOT--BUT WE DE-ACTIVATED IT! LOOK--FRESH TAR ON THE WHEELS... THAT MEANS IT WENT OVER A FRESHLY-TARRED ROAD BEFORE IT REACHED THE STUDIO...
THERE'S A NEWSPAPER THAT PAYS $25 FOR ANY NEWS TIP! I'LL TELL 'EM WHAT I OVERHEARD!
"LATER, UPON CHECKING AT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS..."
THE ONLY TWO STREETS BEING NEWLY PAVED ARE FOURTH STREET AND SYCAMORE DRIVE!
SYCAMORE DRIVE? THAT'S WHERE THE FIRST JOKER HAS HIS HOUSE!
"MEANWHILE, THE 'SON' OF THE JOKER WAS GOING THROUGH A SECRET PASSAGEWAY THAT LED INTO A FANTASTIC HIDEAWAY..."
WELCOME HOME, "SON"!
HI, "DAD"--HOW'D I DO?
FINE, FINE! I NEVER HAD A SON, BUT I ALWAYS WANTED ONE--AND WHEN I CHOSE YOU TO BE MY PROTEGÉ, I KNEW YOU'D CARRY ON THE JOKER TRADITION IN GOOD STYLE!
YOU'RE STILL A BIT CRUDE, OF COURSE--BUT IF YOU REMEMBER ALL THE TRICKS I'VE TAUGHT YOU, YOU'LL BE WORTHY OF THE NAME... THE "SON" OF THE JOKER!
"AT THAT MOMENT, BRUCE WAYNE WAS READING THE NEWS STORY RELATED BY THAT TIPSTER..."
"A TIME-BOMB IN THE CHARIOT"--"TAR ON THE WHEELS"... EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED WHEN I ONCE FOUGHT THE ORIGINAL JOKER, MANY YEARS AGO! COULD THIS BE A COINCIDENCE?

COULD THE NEW JOKER HAVE STUDIED THE OLD JOKER'S TACTICS SO CLOSELY AND... GREAT SCOTT! I JUST REMEMBERED--THE ORIGINAL JOKER DELIBERATELY PUT TAR ON THE WHEELS TO LURE ME INTO A TRAP!
KATHY, I MAY BE OVERLY CONCERNED, BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK ON THE OLD JOKER AGAIN!
;SNIFF;, OH, I WISH I DIDN'T HAVE THIS AWFUL COLD... THEN I COULD GO WITH YOU ;SNIFF;, AS BATWOMAN!
"SOON AFTER, BATMAN WARILY CHECKED THE GROUNDS ABOUT THE OLD JOKER'S SECLUDED HOME...."
ODD.. ALL THE OTHER FLOWERS IN THE REAR OF HIS HOUSE ARE TALL AND HEALTHY... BUT THESE ARE STUNTED, WEAK-- ALMOST AS IF THEIR ROOTS AREN'T IN DEEP ENOUGH SOIL! I WONDER..?
"FEELING AROUND THE SOIL, BATMAN SOON DISCOVERED THE ANSWER..."
NO WONDER! THE FLOWERS AND SOIL CAMOUFLAGED A TRAPDOOR! HMM... STEPS LEADING BELOW--TO A PASSAGE...
"MEANWHILE..."
WELL, "POP"--THE TAR TRICK YOU TAUGHT ME LED THEM HERE, JUST AS YOU SAID IT WOULD!
YES, "SON"-- AND KNOCKOUT GAS BOMBS GOT THEM QUICKLY, THE MINUTE THEY ENTERED THE HOUSE...;HA, HA;
NOW, AT LONG LAST, I'M GOING TO FULFILL MY DREAM--TO UNMASK BATMAN! ONCE I KNOW BATMAN II'S IDENTITY--THEN I'LL ALSO KNOW THE SECRET IDENTITY OF BATMAN I!

"BUT, ABRUPTLY..."
BATMAN!
WHEW! THAT'S WHAT I CALL TIMING!
CRASH
"EVEN AS HIRELINGS RUSHED FORWARD, THE OLD BATMAN SNATCHED A SCIMATAR FROM THE WALL, AND..."
STOP HIM! STOP HIM!
YOU'RE A LITTLE TOO LATE, JOKER!
"NEXT INSTANT, THREE GENERATIONS OF CRIME-FIGHTERS UNITED TO COMBAT THE ENEMIES OF LAW AND ORDER!"
I MAY NOT BE AS SPRY AS I USED TO BE -- BUT I'LL STILL BE ABLE TO GET AWAY THROUGH THE SECRET PANEL I INSTALLED FOR EMERGENCIES!
JOKER, THIS JUST ISN'T YOUR DAY! YOU'VE BEEN WRONG ABOUT EVERYTHING!
CRASH
9


"BUT AS BATMAN SEIZED HIS PRISONER.."
OH-OH.. THE JOKER'S "SON" HAS DICK AT HIS MERCY--UNLESS MY SON CAN HANDLE HIM!
"AND, IRONICALLY, IT WAS BATMAN'S SON WHO OVERCAME THE JOKER'S "SON"--TO THE SATISFACTION OF HIS PROUD FATHER!"
WELL, JOKER--IT SEEMS YOUR COMEBACK GOT A COMEDOWN!
THAT FOOL! HE'S NOT WORTHY OF MY FAMOUS NAME! BAH!
"THE END!" AH, WHAT PROSE! JACK LONDON COULDN'T HAVE DONE BETTER!
WHAT HAVE YOU GOT THERE, ALFRED?
I'VE JUST WRITTEN ANOTHER IMAGINARY ADVENTURE OF THE FUTURE! NATURALLY ONLY YOU AND MASTER DICK CAN READ IT--BUT I THINK YOU'LL ENJOY IT, MASTER BRUCE!
I HOPE SO...I KNOW YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO DISAPPOINT YOUR READERS!
THE END
10

**STATEMENT REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, JULY 2, 1946 AND JUNE 11, 1960 (74 STAT. 208) SHOWING THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION OF BATMAN, published 8 times yearly at Sparta, Illinois for October 1st, 1961.**

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J. S. Liebowitz, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of September, 1961.

Daniel Epstein, Notary Public

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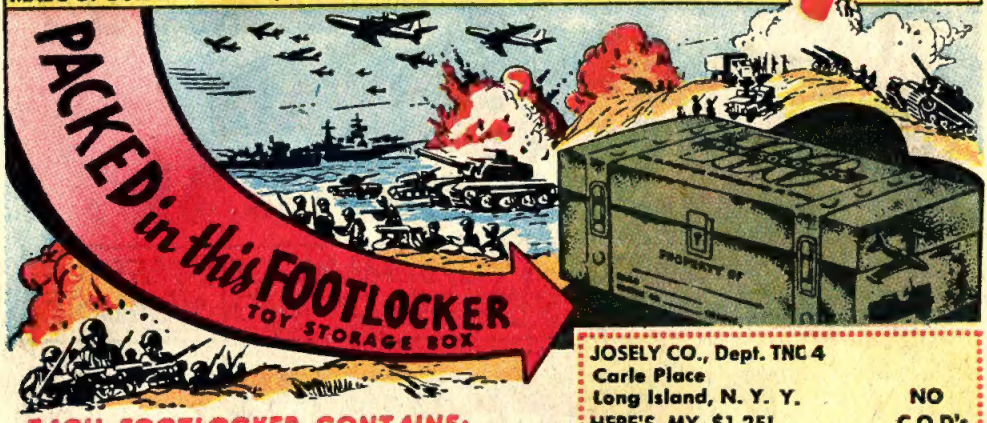


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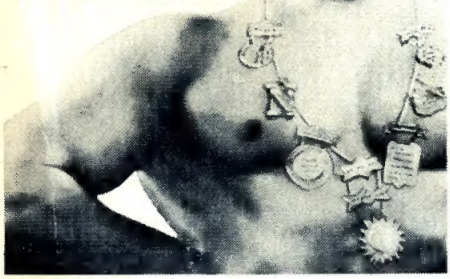

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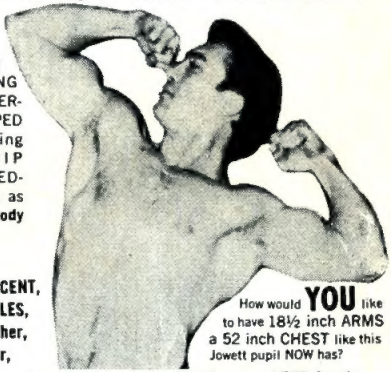

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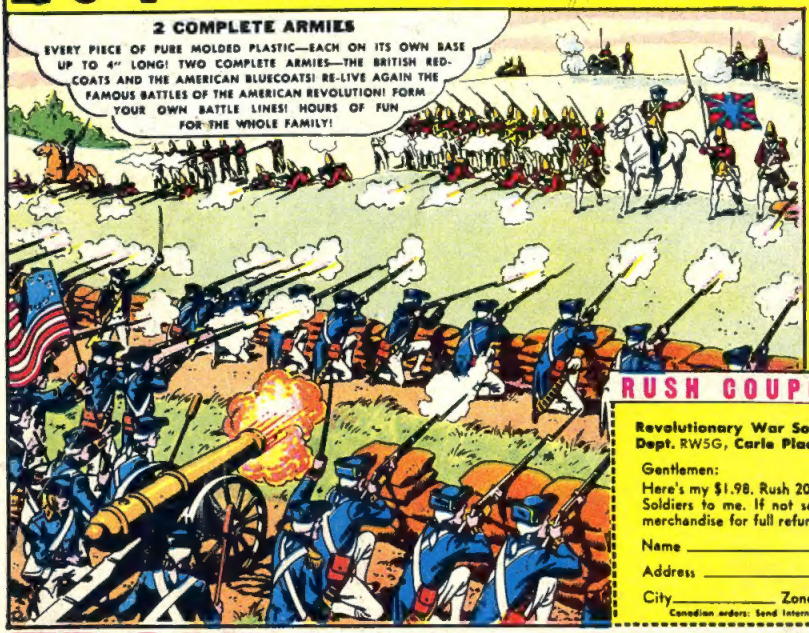
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